



HF Happenings 955

Operating Tip

Read The Rules - this tip is from Etienne, K7ATN: Read the rules. According to his experience with SOTA operations, "...being familiar with a contest or an event's rules could reduce newbie questions by about half. And make them more successful to boot."

The Winter QRP Contest on 17 July



The QRP contests are intended to be fun activities to promote QRP operation between radio amateurs. Using homebuilt equipment or operating as a portable/field station and using temporary antennas is encouraged but is not a requirement.

The Winter QRP Contest runs from 12:00 to 13:30 UTC (14:00 to 15:30 CAT) on Saturday 17 July 2021 with CW and phone activity using 5 W or less. The first 45 minutes is limited to the 40 m band only, the remaining 45 minutes the contestants are free to use any HF (non-WARC) band as they see fit. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your six character Grid locator.

Logs in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format with a summary sheet must be sent to info@zs6wr.co.za by 23:59 CAT on Thursday 22 July 2021. Get all the rules on page 95 of the 2021 Blue Book.

July

- 12 - West Rand meeting
- 17 - Winter QRP contest; Magalies and Highway ARCs meeting
- 18 - ZS2 Sprint; YOTA Contest
- 19 - Provincial schools open
- 20 - PEARS and Border ARC meetings
- 21 - SARL 80 m Club Sprint
- 24 - Full Moon; CTARC meeting; 24 and 25 - RSGB Islands on the Air contest
- 27 - Secunda ARC meeting
- 28 and 29 - Delta Aquarids MS

August

- 1 - the SARL HF Phone contest
- 7 - Durban ARC meeting
- 8 - New Moon
- 9 - National Women's Day; SARL YL Sprint; West Rand meeting
- 12 - International Youth Day
- 12 and 12a - Perseids MS
- 12a - Namibia schools close
- 14 - SARL Youth Sprint
- 14 and 15 - WAE CW contest
- 15 - SARL HF Digital contest
- 17 - PEARS and Border ARC meetings
- 21 - Magalies and Highway ARCs meeting
- 21 and 22 - International Lighthouse Weekend
- 22 - Full Moon
- 28 - CTARC meeting; SARL 40 m Grid Square sprint

The ZS2 Sprint on 18 July

This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Eastern Cape and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. This tells me NOT everybody works everybody! ZS1, ZS3, ZS4, ZS5, ZS6 and DX only work ZS2 stations. ZS2 works everybody. It is a CW and phone activity on 40 metres and is on the air from 14:00 to 15:00 UTC (16:00 to 17:00 CAT) on Sunday 18 July 2021. The exchange is a RS or RST report and your provincial or country abbreviation. Logs, in ADIF, Cabrillo or MS Excel format must be sent to contest@peham.co.za by 23:59 CAT on Friday 23 July 2021. The rules are on page 73 of the 2021 Blue Book.

"Where Do We Go Next?"

This book published in 1991 and written by Martti Laine, OH2BH, is now available online and free to download (310 pages in PDF format, about 63,9 k) on the Northern California DX Foundation's (NCDXF) Web site at <https://www.ncdx.org/pages/oh2bh.html>

The SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Sprint

The fourth leg of the SARL Wednesday 80 m Club Sprint is on the air from 17:30 to 18:30 UTC (19:30 to 20:30 CAT) on Wednesday 21 July 2021. The exchange is a RS or RST report, the name of your Club and your 4-character grid square. Log sheets in MS Excel format must be sent to zs4bfm@mweb.co.za by 23:59 CAT on Monday 26 July.

Results of the SARL Newbie QSO Party

Fifteen logs were received for the SARL Newbie QSO Party held on 3 July. Looking at the results – where are the newbie amateurs?

- 1st Roy Walsh, ZS3RW - 265 points
- 2nd Esmè Walsh, ZS2EW - 263 points
- 3rd Chris Avenant, ZS6CPA - 248 points
- 4th Danie Schnetler, ZS6DPS - 244 points
- 5th Dienie Schnetler, ZS6DNI - 224 points
- 6th Woody Collett, ZS3WL - 165 points
- 7th Johan van Zijl, ZS4DZ - 135 points
- 8th Gerhard Coetzee, ZS3TG - 121 points
- 9th Nick Dreyer, ZS1N - 110 points
- 10th Werner Swanepoel, ZS2WS - 82 points
- 11th Kobus Boshoff, ZS6BOS - 74 points
- 12th Nelius van Niekerk, ZS3NN - 54 points
- 13th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC - 52 points
- 14th Matthys Louw, ZS1TBP - 27 points
- 15th Anthony Rouquette, ZS6ANT - 20 points

Registrations Strong for 24th Annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

Set for 21 and 22 August, the 24th annual International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW) will be back, despite the disruption of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Each year, typically on the third weekend of August, participants set up portable stations at or near lighthouses and lightships around the world. Last year, prospects for the event were looking dim, but "regular supporters wanted the event to be a beacon of hope," the event's sponsor said. More than 360 registrations from 43



countries backed up their belief. As of 8 July, this year's registration tally had already topped 200, with 29 participants from Australia, 25 from the United Kingdom, 51 from Germany, 23 from the USA and 6 from South Africa. Umhlanga Rocks lighthouse in the picture, it must be the easiest lighthouse to activate – BUT has never been activated!

The ILLW typically attracts entries for some 500 lighthouses in more than 40 countries. The event has few rules and is not a typical contest-type event. The ILLW will begin at 00:01 UTC on 21 August and continue through to 24:00 UTC on 22 August. Each station's operators decide how they will operate their station with respect to modes and bands. There are no power restrictions or entry classes and no scores.

"We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun while making contact with as many amateur radio stations as possible," ILLW said in the event announcement. "We request that stations take time to work other lighthouses or lightships, as well as the slow operators or newly licensed or QRP stations." Participants contact the relevant authorities to obtain permission to operate. It is within the guidelines of the event to move operations from a lighthouse to a museum for historic reasons. In any case, the lighthouse should be visible to and visited by, the public wherever possible. Visit the [ILLW website](#) for more detailed information.

DX from Africa



St Helena, ZD7 (Update). Gerry, G3WIP (VK0GB, VK4BGL, VP8DPD), continues to be active as ZD7GB from the main village of Jamestown on St Helena Island (AF-022). It has been reported that he will be working as a doctor on the island until 30 September. Activity will be during his free/spare time on 40 - 10 metres using SSB and FT8/FT4. Gerry also brought his QO-100 satellite gear with him. His equipment is a FT-857 and Atlas-210. Antennas are a vertical that tunes on 20 metres as well as a long-wire. QSL details are not figured out yet.

Senegal, 6W. Dani, EA4ATI, is once again active from Senegal, but signing as 6W1/EA4ATI until he receives a permanent 6W call sign (which may take 3 months). Activity will be on 80 - 10 metres using mainly SSB. QSL via EA4R. Dani will try to upload his log to LoTW and eQSL.

Morocco, CN. Bruno, IW5BBV, will be traveling using a 4X4 vehicle (see QRZ.com) to various locations in Morocco between 5 and 30 August. He will be active as CN2BBV mainly on 20 and 40 m using SSB only. QSL via IW5BBV.

Cape Verde, D4. Paco, EA7KNT, will be active as EA7KNT/D4 (or possibly D4SAL) from Sal Island (AF-086, WLOTA 0610) between 23 August and 5 September. He will be there scouting out the island for a major operation in December with operators German, EA7AC; Pedro, EA7KNX; EA7KOB and Luis, EA7KOL/CT1ESO.

Kingdom of Eswatini DXpedition, 3DA0RU. More operators have been added to the 3DA0RU team. Operators mentioned are Nick, R5EC; Vasily, R7AL; Vasily, RA1ZZ; Vladimir, RK8A; Leo, RW9JZ; Slav, OK8AU; Wlodek, SP6EQZ and Albert, UB9WLJ. They will be active as 3DA0RU from Eswatini between 22 October and 8 November. Activity will be on 160 - 6 metres using CW, SSB and FT8 (F/H). QSL via R7AL or ClubLog's OQRS (preferable). For more details and updates, see <https://dxpedition.wixsite.com/3da0ru>

DXCC's Most Wanted – ClubLog

The "DXCC Most Wanted" entities list has been updated on ClubLog as of 11 July. The list contains 340 entities. There have been changes in the "Top 26" since we last reported back on 11 June. Syria (YK) and Chesterfield Island (FK/C) have change places, YK switching from 24th to 25th and

FK/C switching from 25th to 24th. The complete "DXCC Most Wanted" entities list (340) is available at <https://secure.clublog.org/mostwanted.php>. The following are the top 26 entities:

1 P5 DPRK (North Korea)	14 KH4 Midway Island
2 3Y/B Bouvet Island	15 ZS8 Prince Edward and Marion Islands
3 FT5/W Crozet Island	16 PY0S Saint Peter and Paul Rocks
4 BS7H Scarborough Reef	17 PY0T Trindade and Martim Vaz Islands
5 CEOX San Felix Islands	18 KP5 Desecheo Island
6 BV9P Pratas Island	19 SV/A Mount Athos
7 KH7K Kure Island	20 VP8S South Sandwich Islands
8 KH3 Johnston Island	21 KH5 Palmyra and Jarvis Islands
9 3Y/P Peter 1 Island	22 ZL9 New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
10 FT5/X Kerguelen Island	23 EZ Turkmenistan
11 FT/G Glorioso Island	24 FK/C Chesterfield Island
12 VK0M Macquarie Island	25 YK Syria
13 YV0 Aves Island	26 JD/M Minami Torishima

BEWARE!

Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, 1B. Tevfik, TA1HZ (ex-ZD8HZ), has announced that he has moved to Iskele city in the district known as the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus (TRNC). Tev states that he has "received the necessary permit from local authority to be on the air as 1B/TA1HZ." QSL via eQSL or direct to the address on QRZ.com.

PLEASE NOTE: The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) is a self-proclaimed state (part of Cyprus), which is only recognized by Turkey. The TRNC does not count for anything for DXCC purposes. Also, the use of the 1B prefix is illegal and is not sanctioned by the ITU. For more details about TRNC, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Cyprus. Also, please read the article written by SMOJHF <https://dxnews.com/north-cyprus-trnc>

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 5 to 12 July 2021.

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 12 July Geographic Focus: North America Participation: Worldwide Mode: CW, SSB Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m Classes: Single Op Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power Work stations: Once per band QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member Multipliers: (none) Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points Submit logs by: 14 July 2021 E-mail logs to: (none) Post log summary at: http://qrpcontest.com/4sqrp	Mail logs to: (none) Find rules at: http://www.4sqrp.com/SSS/ssss_rules.pdf	K1USN Slow Speed Test 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 12 July Geographic Focus: Worldwide Participation: Worldwide Mode: CW Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country Work stations: Once per band QSO Points: 1 point per QSO Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
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Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 July 2021
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest
01:00 - 01:59 UTC 13 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Overlay: Youth (26 years old or younger); Youth YL (female 26 years old or younger); YL (female older than 26 years)
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RS and age group (OM, YL, Youth YL or Youth)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with OM; 5 points per QSO with YL; 10 points per QSO with Youth; 15 points per QSO with Youth YL
Multipliers: Each DXCC once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 01:59 UTC 14 July 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: <https://logs.wwsac.com/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <https://wwsac.com/rules.html>

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
17:00 - 19:00 UTC 13 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 July 2021

E-mail logs to: rtty-week-tuesday@rttyops.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://rttyops.com/>

Phone Weekly Test – Fray
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: SSB
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 16 July 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test
13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 14 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC and 07:00 - 08:00 UTC 15 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Member: Name and member no or "CWA"; non-Member: Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 08:00 UTC 17 July 2021
 Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <https://cwops.org/cwops-tests/>

RSGB 80 m Club SSB Championship
 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 14 July
 Geographic Focus: United Kingdom
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: United Kingdom
 Mode: SSB
 Bands: 80 m Only
 Classes: (none)
 Exchange: RS and serial no
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: (see rules)
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 15 July 2021
 Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2021/r80mcc.shtml>

RTTYOPS Week Sprint
 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 15 July
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: RTTY
 Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
 Classes: Single Op
 Max operating hours: 2 hours
 Exchange: other station's call, your call, serial no and your name
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 22 July 2021
 E-mail logs to: rtty-week-thursday@rttyops.com
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at: <http://rttyops.com/>

EACW Meeting
 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 15 July

Geographic Focus: Spain
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40 m
 Classes: Single Op
 Exchange: EACW Member: RST, member no and nickname; EA non-Member: RST, nickname and EA province; non-EA: RST, nickname and DXCC prefix
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 17 July 2021
 E-mail logs to: (none)
 Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<https://www.eacwspain.es/sample-page/eacwmeeting/>

QRP Fox Hunt
 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 16 July
 Geographic Focus: United States
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 20 m Only
 Classes: Single Op - fox or hound
 Max power: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 17 July 2021
 E-mail logs to: (see rules)
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxyhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint
 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 16 July
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: RTTY
 Bands: (see rules)
 Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 18 July 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

NCCC Sprint
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 16 July
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 18 July 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

K1USN Slow Speed Test
20:00 - 21:00 UTC 16 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 18 July 2021
Post log summary at:
<http://www.3830scores.com>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

Russian Radio Team Championship
07:00 - 14:59 UTC 17 July
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, SSB
Bands: 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed - low or high; Multi-Op
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts
Exchange: RRTC: RS(T) and 3-character code;
Non-RRTC: RS(T) and ITU Zone no
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with RRTC stations; 2 points per QSO with non-RRTC station in same zone; 3 points per QSO with different zone
Multipliers: Each ITU zone once per band; Each RRTC 3-character code once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 19:59 UTC 17 July 2021
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at:
http://ua9qcq.com/en/submit_log.php?lang=en
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://srr.ru/championat-rossii-po-radiosvyazi-na-kv-rrtc/>

Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge
08:00 - 14:00 UTC 17 July
Geographic Focus: Australia/New Zealand
Participation: Australia/New Zealand
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40 m
Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi
Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: RS(T) and serial no
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 24 July 2021
E-mail logs to: tllogs@wia.org.au
Upload log at:
<https://contester.azurewebsites.net/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/transman/>

Feld Hell Sprint
 12:00 - 13:59 UTC 17 July
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: Feld Hell
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max power: Standard: 100 watts
 QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: (see rules)
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Bonus Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: (see rules)
 Score Calculation: (see rules)
 Submit logs by: 20 July 2021
 Upload log at:
<https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/early-bird-sprint>

North American RTTY QSO Party
 18:00 UTC 17 July to 05:59 UTC 18 July
 Geographic Focus: North America
 Participation: Worldwide
 Awards: North America
 Mode: RTTY
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op – QRP or low; Multi-Two - low
 Max operating hours: Single Op: 10 hours;
 Multi-Two: 12 hours
 Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: NA: Name and state, DC, province or country; non-NA: Name
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
 Multipliers: Each US state/DC (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 25 July 2021
 Upload log at:
<http://www.ncjweb.com/naqplogsubmit/>
 Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

RSGB International Low Power Contest
 09:00 - 12:00 UTC and 13:00 - 16:00 UTC 18 July
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
 Classes: Single Op - fixed or portable - 10 W;
 Single Op - fixed or portable - 5 W; Multi-Op - fixed or portable - 10 W; Multi-Op - fixed or portable - 5 W
 Exchange: RST and serial no and power
 QSO Points: 15 points per QSO with 10 W/5 W portable/mobile station; 10 points per QSO with 10 W/5 W fixed station; 5 points per QSO with non-QRP station
 Multipliers: (none)
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
 Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 19 July 2021
 Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2021/rqrp.shtml>

YOTA Contest
 10:00 - 21:59 UTC 18 July
 Geographic Focus: Worldwide
 Participation: Worldwide
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op All Band Open
 Single Op All Band YOTA (25 and younger);
 Single Op All Band YOTA 6 Hours; Single Op 3-Band Open; Single Op 3-Band YOTA; Multi-Single YOTA (2:1 younger to older ops)
 Exchange: Single Op: age (on Jan 1 of year of contest); Multi-Op: average age of ops (on Jan 1 of year of contest)
 Work stations: Once per band per mode
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: Each age once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 21:59 UTC 25 July 2021
 E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/>

CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush
20:00 - 21:59 UTC 18 July

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 5 points for QSO with W0CQC or N0CQC

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 17 August 2021

E-mail logs to: vkumagai@q.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.coloradoqrpclub.org/contests/gold.htm>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

23:00 UTC 18 July to 01:00 UTC 19 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on

same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 25 July 2021

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/>

K1USN Slow Speed Test

00:00 - 01:00 UTC 19 July

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Maximum 20 wpm - Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each state/province/country once per band; W/VE do not count as country mults

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 July 2021

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

Next Week's Contests

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 20 July

RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 20 July

Phone Weekly Test – Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 21 July

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 21 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC and 07:00 - 08:00 UTC 22 July

NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 22 July

RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 22 July

RSGB 80 m Club Data Championship, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 22 July

EACW Meeting, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 July

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 23 July

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 23 July
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 23 July
K1USN Slow Speed Test, 20:00 - 21:00 UTC 23 July
RSGB IOTA Contest, 12:00 UTC 24 July to 12:00 UTC 25 July
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees, 17:00 - 21:00 UTC 25 July
K1USN Slow Speed Test, 00:00 - 01:00 UTC 26 July
QCX Challenge, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 26 July and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 27 July
RSGB FT4 Contest Series, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 26 July
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest, 01:00 - 01:59 UTC 27 July
RTTYOPS Week Sprint, 17:00 - 19:00 UTC 27 July

<https://sarlnewsbulletin.wordpress.com/hfhappenings/> and www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter

New Product Spotlight: Three New Antennas from Chameleon

The 2021 edition of the DX Engineering catalogue is out. That is outstanding news if you are itching to upgrade your station and even better news if you are a fan of Chameleon Antenna products. Check out page 52 for a slew of new Chameleon gear, including these antennas:



CHA-LEFS Lightweight End-Fed Sloper Antenna

With its minimalist design, this six-band (40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 m) HF no-tuner antenna is made for the serious backpacker and outdoor adventurer who does not want the extra bulk. It features a sturdy line winder with integral high-efficiency impedance matching network transformer, ultra-thin 20 gauge PTFE antenna KEVLAR wire and 50 feet (15 m) of lightweight Micro 90 paracord.

40/20 m Fan Dipole

This field-tuneable resonant antenna will provide long-range communication on 40 and 20 metres using short-range communication via NVIS propagation. Small but rugged, it is ideal for temporary setup at a campsite or emergency shelter, yet it is durable enough for semi-permanent installation at a base station. Add a wide-range antenna tuner for operation on 17, 15, 12 and 10 metres.



Portable HF Tactical Delta Loop Antenna

Designed for transportability, quick setup and a small footprint, this antenna is perfect for camping or temporary installation at houses with a small yard or antenna restrictions. It can operate on 80 – 6 m but is most effective from 30 – 6 m. It also provides acceptable shorter range NVIS propagation on 80 – 40 m, making it a useful backup EMCOMM antenna.

Enter “Chameleon” at DXEngineering.com for the full line-up of portable antennas, portable HF backpack antenna systems, EMCOMM portable antennas, capacity hat kits and more.

Do not have your new catalogue yet? Click [here](#) to request your free copy or find what you need in the [easy-to-use online digital version](#).



Using the Icom IC-705 in the Field



Now that summer is here and the pandemic is winding down, grab some radio gear and head outdoors. It is the season for portable operations and finally getting out of couch-potato mode.

This is also a great opportunity to update your transceiver. Icom has introduced the [IC-705 All Mode Portable Transceiver](#). There is no current QRP radio that has the same feature set as the IC-705. The closest examples may be the Elecraft KX3 or perhaps Yaesu's FT-817D/818ND with its additional 2 m/70 cm coverage. Both are good radios but do not have the technology found in the 705.

Compact Shack in the Box

Icom's IC-705 is essentially a hybrid of the IC-9700 and the IC-7300, two well-established radios that are popular with the amateur community. If you have used the IC-7300 or IC-9700, the menu structure and features are very similar. The IC-705 adds features like Bluetooth, APRS, D-STAR and WLAN.

From HF to 50/144/440 MHz, you can enjoy a variety of modes: D-STAR, SSB, CW, RTTY, AM and FM. Like the 7300, it is already equipped for working digital modes like FT-8, JT-65 and others. A micro USB to USB cable and software is all you need. The IC-705 receives continuously from 30 kHz through the 144 MHz band plus 400 – 470 MHz, a direct conversion SDR that operates much like the IC-7300 up to 25 MHz and then becomes a superheterodyne over the rest of the spectrum. It has features that should appeal to both amateurs and shortwave listeners.

The large 4.3 inch (109.22 mm) screen colour display improves visibility in the field and allows you to make tuning, menu and mode changes with just a touch. An internal GPS receiver and antenna provide location logging RX/TX locations via D-PRS, "Near Me" repeater search/scan, QSO recording with metadata and internal clock synchronization. A microSD memory card is required for some of these functions.

Without going into extensive detail, the IC-705 offers features usually found on larger base transceivers and is much easier to transport. At 2.2 pounds (0.997 kg), it is a complete station you can hold in your hand.

Building Your Go-Kit

The IC-705 is a great radio for SOTA, POTA and Field Day, but your go-kit is not complete until you round up the accessories and get a rugged, lightweight carrier to store your equipment. Icom makes a custom backpack; my personal choice is a hard-sided case with internal foam padding such as a NANUK Equipment Case. It stands up well to rough treatment and accidental falls.

The IC-705 does not have a built-in tuner, but neither does the FT-818ND and the ATU option for the KX3 adds money to the bottom line. This leaves two options for the 705: an external tuner or choosing resonant antennas for your operation.

Fortunately, there are several compact auto-tuners built specifically for, or are compatible with, the IC-705. Icom's AH-705 will accommodate random wire, Yagis, verticals, or dipoles. The Vibroplex MAT-705PLUS supports 50 ohm antennas and has standard BNC connectors. The LDG Z-100A, MFJ-939I and others that support the Icom can be used in "semi-automatic" mode by transmitting a carrier and pressing the tune button or by using a control cable compatible with the radio.

Resonant antennas need to be light and small, so they would not take up too much space in the go-kit. [SOTABeams Band Hoppers](#) take full-length linked dipole kits and pack them in a compact storage bag. [Par EndFedz](#) antennas are half wavelength single wires that cover multiple HF bands. Magnetic loops are a small but interesting type of antenna. Chameleon loops like the [F-Loop 2.0](#) generally offer quiet reception because they are rarely affected by electrical interference and can cover 80 – 10 m when tuned properly.

Batteries are the power supply of choice, especially when operating in remote areas. An HT-style battery (which also fits Icom's ID-51 and ID-31) is included with the radio, allowing it to produce 5 W maximum output. It is good for a few hours of typical operation, depending on the amount of transmitting you do and the power output level. Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO4) batteries are the

preferred choice of many amateurs for portable operation since they are lightweight and offer a large capacity. In addition, these 12 V batteries will allow you to double the output power on the IC-705 to 10 W. You may also want to consider a compact solar charging panel for extended operations.

Phone, CW or digital? The IC-705 comes with a speaker/microphone combination, or you may prefer a lightweight headset such as the Heil BM-17. You will need to add a computer for digital and a key or paddle for CW. The GHD Palm-Size Travel Iambic Paddle is a good choice. Digital only requires a USB cable between the computer and radio, just like the IC-7300.

To complete your go-kit, add these useful items:

- Weights for tossing antennas and support lines.
- Coax cable and adapters
- Rope and stakes
- Extension cords/Powerpole splitters
- Computer cables
- Spare batteries
- Basic tool kit
- Antenna analyser (optional but helpful for antenna setup)

Pick a Park

There are thousands of local, state and national parks around the country, ready for you to set up a portable station. If you enjoy operating in the great outdoors, Parks on the Air (POTA) provides opportunities to hone your portable operating skills, win awards, ragchew with other amateurs, take in some spectacular views and maybe even see some wildlife (hopefully small and friendly).

Another popular activity, SOTA (Summits on the Air) is a test of your peak operating skills in mountainous areas. You can participate actively (Mountain Goat) or chase SOTA activations (Shack Sloth.) But wait—there is more. Here are some other organizations that provide awards for activators and chasers:

- Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS)
- Beaches on the Air (BOTA)
- Islands on the Air (IOTA)
- Mines on the Air (MOTA): operating near (but not in) mines.
- US Islands Awards Program (USI): operating from river, lake and shore islands.
- World Castles Award (COTA): operating from castles and other important historical structures around the world.

Google them for additional information, rules and operating procedures.

Getting the Word Out

Let fellow amateurs know about your upcoming portable operation. Many of the organizations listed above have websites that include spots that show station call, time, frequency and location. Websites like DX Summit and DX Watch are also ready to share your information. Encourage your contacts to post spots on these sites so others will know you are on the air.

Announce yourself on social media. Use Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and other platforms. If you have a blog or website, include an entry about your upcoming trip. Appearing on social media and spotting networks can improve your chances of making contacts.

Interested in Going Portable?

It is great to get away from it all, especially those high noise levels that are common in densely populated areas. Forget about the HOA and deed restrictions and breathe in some of that fresh air.

You can find additional information about operating away from home in the ARRL book, "Portable Operating for Amateur Radio" by Stuart Thomas, KB1HQS.